

WYCOMBE Wanderers have something of a score to settle tomorrow night (Tuesday) when they meet Hitchin Town at Loakes Park in the Rothmans Isthmian League, Division One.

At the start of the season the Blues won their first five matches, scoring 16 goals in the process, and were perched proudly on top of the league. It was Hitchin who brought that run to an end on September 4 with a 2-1 victory at Topfield.

Hitchin's winning goal was a bizarre affair, the ball being deflected over the top of goalkeeper Dave Wright's head. Dave was in goal for John Maskell, injured at that time. Mick Holifield had put Wanderers one up while Neil Bunker hit Hitchin's equaliser and Kevin Hammond was credited with the winner.

Both players are in line for the return at Loakes Park where Hitchin will be going all out to maintain an unbeaten away record in 1974. But while they have yet to lose away this year, their home form has suffered. In all this term, Town have drawn ten times and recent results include a 1-3 home defeat by Ilford, a draw against Dulwich, a 1-1 draw at Barking and a 0-0 stalemate at Hayes.

Top scorer this term is Howard Kettleborough, Hitchin's only permit player, who joined them from Southern Leaguers Wellingborough, at the start of the season. His brother, John, is the centre-half. Howard has 24 goals to his name, mostly scored with his head.

Included in the Hitchin side will be Tony Brothers, who joined the Blues at the start of the season and played such a memorable game at full-back against Newport County. Tony returned to his former club in January as he was unable to gain a first team place at Wycombe and was also having trouble with travelling.